

REMARKS

After the above amendment, Claims 1-8 10-16, 18-21, 23, 25-34 and 36-54 are pending in the application. Claims 26, 29, 30, 32, 34 and 37 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 and Claims 1-6, 8, 11, 14-16, 18, 19, 21-23, 25, 27, 28, 38 and 39 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103. Claims 7, 10, 12, 13, 17, 20, 24, 31, 33, 35 and 36 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but are indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 9 was cancelled in a previous response.

By this reply, Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable Claim 17, Claims 17, 22 and 24 are cancelled, Claim 26 has been amended to include the limitation of allowable Claim 35, Claim 35 is cancelled, new independent claim 40 has been added which includes the limitation of Claim 1 and allowable Claim 24, and dependent Claims 41-54 have been added to depend from new Claim 40, corresponding to Claims 2, 5, 6, 10, 14-20, 22 and 23, respectively. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, Claims 1-8, 10-16, 18-21, 23, 25-34 and 36-54 remain for consideration.

Claims 1 and 26 have been amended to include the limitations of allowable claims 17 and 35, respectively. Claim 40 has been added, which includes the limitations of Claim 1 and allowable claim 24. In view of the amendments to Claims 1 and 26 and the addition of claim 40 to include allowable subject matter, reconsideration and allowance of Claims 1, 26 and 40 is respectively requested.

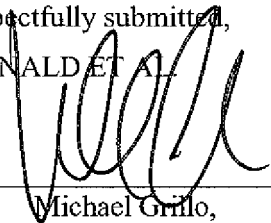
Claims 2-8, 10-16 and 18-21, 23 and 25 depend from allowable Claim 1, Claims 27-34 and 36-39 depend from allowable Claim 26, and claims 41-54 depend from allowable Claim 40. Therefore, applicants respectfully request that the objections and rejections to Claims 2-8, 10-16, 18-21, 23, 25, 27-34, 36-39 and 41-54 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Applicants believe that the foregoing remarks and claim amendments are fully responsive to the Office Action and that the claims herein are allowable. An early action to that effect is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicants' attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee of \$250.00 for the additional 10 new claims to Deposit Account No. 50-0260, Order No. CC-0675. Should there be any additional fee or overpayment such fee or overpayment should be charged or credited to Deposit Account No. 50-0260 Order No. CC-0675.

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Respectfully submitted,
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